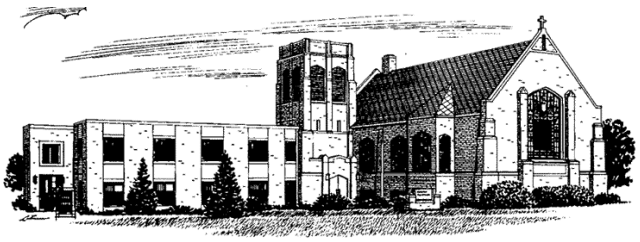


SARON NEWSLETTER

Saron Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA)
510 Main Street
St. Joseph, Michigan 49085

Website: www.saronlutheran.org
Email: info@saronlutheran.org
Phone: 269-983-1273
Facebook: www.facebook.com/saronlutheranchurchst.joseph

The Rev. Joan Oleson, Pastor
Home: 269-983-2475
Email: oleson@saronlutheran.org

Marcus Roll, Senior Choir Director,
Bell Choir Director
Email: mroll@saronlutheran.org
Irma Gorman, Organist
Margaret Froehlich, Administrative Assistant
Denise Cook, Financial Secretary

Sundays at Saron:
During the School Year:
8:30 & 11:00 A.M. Worship
Childcare provided
9:40 Learning for Ages 2 – Adult

*Summers (**beginning Memorial Day weekend**):*
9:30 Holy Communion
Childcare provided
No Learning Hour

All are welcome!
We hold in prayer:
The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton,
Presiding Bishop, ELCA
The Rev. Dr. Craig Satterlee, Bishop of the
North/West Lower Michigan Synod, ELCA
The Rev. Whayne Hougland, Bishop of the Episcopal
Diocese of Western MI

Our Companion Synods:
Christian Lutheran Church of Honduras
Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea
Lutheran Church of Latvia

Saron's Mission:
Joyfully sharing God's love for all!!

August 2015

Here are some of the highlights from the Youth Gathering in Detroit, along with the themes of each day.

Proclaim Story

Posing with Bishop Satterlee

Connor shares his story with our synod group.

Proclaim Community

Painting boards used to brighten up abandoned homes

Proclaim Justice

Helping remove debris from a vacant lot; here, removing a boat!

Preparing a Community Garden

Proclaim Hope

Sunday Morning Worship at Ford Field House

Together with 30,000 others, we learned what it means to respond to God's grace by building bridges, bearing burdens, breaking chains, and bringing hope. Through worship, conversation, play, speakers, service, and much more, we joined the people of Detroit as we "*Rise Up Together.*" We now share our experience, tell our own stories – a part of God's story, and continue to proclaim Jesus as good news in and through our lives.

Pastor Joan

Caring and Sharing

In Our Prayers –

We remember in our thoughts and prayers: **Arla Huelsberg** is at the Whitcomb Tower Retirement Center, St. Joseph; **Ev Maki** is at Caretel; **Lila Roethel and Eleanor Anderson** are at the Willows; **Dorris Doutt** is at Woodland Terrace, Bridgman Stevensville.

Serving in the military:

Andy Wedde – North Carolina

Office Hours at Saron
Margaret (secretary): Mon-Tues, 9 AM - 1 PM
Weds of Newsletter Week, 9 AM - 1 PM
Volunteers: Weds, 9:30 AM - 11 AM+
Denise (financial secretary): times vary
Call for other times/changes
Pastor: most mornings, except Fridays
When Pastor is out of town, emergency pastoral care information can be obtained by calling the church office (983.1273) or contacting the president of the congregation.

Note: E-mails meant for Pastor should be addressed to oleson@saronlutheran.org. E-mails to Margaret and the church office should be addressed to info@saronlutheran.org.

Happy Birthday Wishes to Saron's Members in August 2015.

Aug. 1 – Bradley Gorman
3 - Ted Dosch
Tim Standen
4 – Richard Bell
Linda Huff
5 - Brian Hohman
Emma Dipert
7 - Janet Hebner
Ed Standen
9 – Benjamin Baumgartner
Mary Smart
14 - Maggie Hammer
15 – David Bailey
16 - Tedd Gorman
22 - Irma Gorman
23 – Andrew Huff
24 –Rebecca (Fortenbacher) Sherry
Paula Risetter
27 – Pamela Olson
Elizabeth Schmuhl
Katie Hebner
Ruth Hahn
28 - Evelyn Maki

Happy Anniversary Wishes to Saron's Members In August 2015

Aug. 1 – Matthew and Laurel Gacek
6 - Jerry and Ruth Stelling
7 –Brad and Marilyn Frey
Victor and Nicole Coar
Jeff and Emily (Weber) Buhnerkempe
8 - Richard and Rosemary Bell
14 - Donald and Eloise Moely
15 – John and T. J. Koehler
20 – David and Shelly Stankiewicz
24 – Jack and Cheryl Houser

"God's Blessings for a very happy day and year round"

If there is anyone who has been omitted, or, if the dates are incorrect from the birthday and anniversary list, please call the church office at 983-1273. Thank you.

SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to the family of Dan Granger upon his death on June 29. Dan's memorial service was at Saron on July 9. Our prayers are with his wife Laurie, daughters Kristen and Heather, and their families.

A THANK YOU NOTE

Pastor and Saron Church Family,
Thank you all for the care, concern, cards, kind wards, and support during this tragic time. My family is truly touched by your generosity.
Granger Family,
Kristen - Heather - Laurie

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

As you prepare for worship, you are invited to read and reflect on the Scriptures for the day.

Sunday August 2 —
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15
Psalm 78:23-29
Ephesians 4:1-16
John 6:24-35

Sunday August 9 —
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
1 Kings 19:4-8
Psalm 34:1-8
Ephesians 4:25—5:2
John 6:35, 41-51

Sunday August 16 —
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
Proverbs 9:1-6
Psalm 34:9-14
Ephesians 5:15-20
John 6:51-58

Sunday August 23 —
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18
Psalm 34:15-22
Ephesians 6:10-20
John 6:56-69

Sunday August 30 —
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9
Psalm 15
James 1:17-27
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

PRAYER GROUP

Join us on Mondays at 11:00 a.m. for a time of quiet reflection and prayer, which includes lifting up the requests offered on Sundays at worship. We meet in the sanctuary.

SUMMER BEACH WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Saron members and friends can take advantage of the beauty of Lake Michigan as a setting for informal summer worship. The last one will be Wednesday, August 12. We will gather at Lion's Park Beach for a picnic supper at 6, followed by worship at 7. The church will provide hot dogs, brats, condiments, chips, and lemonade. Others are invited to bring a dish to share.

FLOWERS FOR WORSHIP

The 2015 Flower Chart is now posted in the narthex. Flowers can be purchased for worship by signing up on the flower chart in the narthex. Cost is $25. Please write "flowers" on the memo line of your check or on your envelope with cash. The flowers are ordered through the church office, unless otherwise designated. Please bring back the empty vases to give back to the florist. THANKS!

Learning

book *of* faith
Open Scripture. Join the Conversation.

Saron is a congregation seeking to become more fluent in the first language of faith, the language of Scripture, in order that we might live into our calling as a people renewed, enlivened, empowered and sent by the Word.

Vacation Bible School

Monday – Thursday
August 3-6
6:30-8:30 pm.
KDG – 5th Grade
Theme: Animal Crackers!

Participants will learn to see themselves as part of the global family and gain a deeper appreciation of the ways in which people, animals and plants live in harmony as God's good creation. Call the church office or pick up a registration at church.

EPHESUS BIBLE STUDY GROUP

This is a study group for men and women, singles or couples. The group meets on the third Sunday of each month, rotating among homes of those who normally attend. The sessions begin at 4:30 pm, and conclude with a light meal. We are using a study from the Animate series, titled **God: Faith is a Quest**. Our next meeting will be Sunday, August 16, at the home of the Pater's, 7932 Lakewood Drive S, Coloma, MI . New members are welcome, but please call to let us know how many to plan for. If you are interested, contact Bob or Mary Kynast (418.0148).

Tuesday Mornings at the Beach

Begin your day with prayer and Bible study at the beach this summer! Bring your travel cup of coffee or tea, a jacket, and your Bible for a gathering on Tuesday mornings at 8:30. We meet at Lions Park Beach in Saint Joseph. Plan to get your free parking pass (as a St Joseph resident) at City Hall, take a brief walk after parking down Lions Park Drive, or pay the $5 daily parking fee. A season pass for $40 is also available. Questions? Contact Pastor.

1ST SUNDAY BOOK CLUB

Mark Sunday, October 4th on you calendar. At 6:30 p.m., in the upstairs lounge, we'll begin the 2015-2016 season of good reading, good discussions and good company. We invite all who enjoy the pleasure of books to join us.

The Husband's Secret, by Liane Moriarty starts us off with a bang. "In her fifth novel, Moriarty puts three women in an impossible situation and doesn't cut them any slack". (Amazon Review) Can good people do bad things? What are we responsible for? For how long? What is moral guilt? Can there ever be forgiveness? Come help us chew on these issues. This novel is worthy in every way possible and will generate a lively discussion. Questions? Please call Kathie Bradley (269-427-7083) or Kathy Cowall (269-428-0354)

"I Cannot Live Without Books", Thomas Jefferson.

Men's monthly Bible Devotions and Breakfast

Men's Bible Devotions/Breakfast will meet August 1st. at 9:00 a.m. at the church. Gather at Saron for devotion followed by breakfasts at a local restaurant.

Outreach

Benton Harbor Area Schools S.M.A.R.T. Tutoring Program

One hour of "one on one" teaching DOES make a difference in the lives of the student and the mentor! After a relaxing summer, please consider participating in this Outreach opportunity in the Fall.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Saron will be collecting SCHOOL SUPPLIES for Martin Luther King Elementary School in Benton Harbor. We have collected school items for several years and the teachers and students are very appreciative. The teachers have asked for basic items for their classrooms. Here is a list of some of their needs: pencils, erasers, dry erase markers, hand sanitizer, copy paper, spiral notebooks, tissues, crayons, glue sticks, and pocket folders.

We will be collecting the school supplies through mid September; a basket is located in the narthex. Thank you for helping the students to have a successful year of learning. Any questions, just give me a call, Jan Stevens 429-2044

Meet me at the Freezer

Saron has meals available in the dining room freezer. Please take one to another member, friend or neighbor - anyone in need. A meal, hug, phone call or visit are all ways we can show God's love. Contact Jan Stevens @ 429-2044 for more information.

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS

Sunday is September 13, 2015
Please mark your calendar; Saron will be participating in a community outreach project - more details to come!

Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen

The Soup Kitchen is always busy, but especially in the summer months. In June we served 177 guests. Thanks to Darlene Kiessel, Janet Larson, Jim and Joan Oleson, Richard Schalon , and Mary Alice Brunner for preparing our meal and keeping the trays moving down the line!! The cookies were once again delicious, thanks to our bakers: Colleen Lundgren, Cheryl Houser, Patty Young, Sandy Seymour, Paula Risetter and Irma Gorman. The Soup Kitchen has a wish list, and currently the need is for COFFEE. If you would be willing to donate cans of coffee, I will be happy to deliver them to the SK. Thanks so much, Jan Stevens.

LARGE cans of fruit are always needed for our day at the Soup Kitchen, THANKS!

LWR Fair Trade

We support Lutheran World Relief Fair Trade farmers through our selling of coffee, tea, and cocoa at cost. We have flavored coffee, decaf, medium and dark roast coffees, black and green teas, and now we are offering Keurig cups. Please support this ministry by purchasing these products regularly for yourself and as gifts. Thank you.

Used Eye Glass Collection

If you have any used glasses that are no longer of use to you, bring them in and place them in the box located in the narthex. They are collected by the local Lions organization for their mission trips to assist people to see once again. The work is an ongoing task of the Lions. Thank You. Keith Stevens, St. Joseph Twp Lions

Women of the ELCA

Deborah Circle

Deborah Circle will not meet in August, will meet again in September.

Hospitality

Sign Up for Refreshments

Please consider signing up for refreshments to be served after worship on Sundays. There is a sign-up sheet on the Narthex bulletin board.

Support

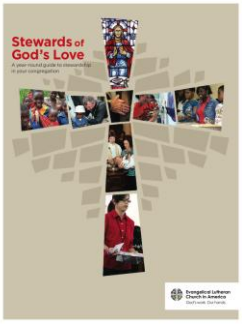
STOCK DONATIONS

Saron partners with Scottrade, a brokerage firm, to accept stock donations. If you would like to donate stock, contact our representative, Bill Fuentas, at (574) 272-1980. The statements we receive from Scottrade do not identify who donated the stock so please notify Dave Bradley or Denise Cook when you have donated. This allows us to complete the transaction and to be sure it's added to your giving statement. If you have further questions or concerns contact Dave Bradley or Denise Cook.

A Special Message for Travelers and Those Who Prefer Electronic Giving

Saron offers the option to give electronically for your convenience. Please contact the church office if you have any questions or to enroll. Thanks

STEWARDS OF GOD'S LOVE



You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest commandment. And a second is like it. You shall love your neighbor as yourself. Matthew 22:37b-39

In the words of hymn #715 **Christ, Be Our Light,** we are reminded about the needs of people throughout our community and world. We thank the people of Saron who work in so many ways to be a local beacon of light helping those in need. **God's work, our hands.**

Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
Shared until all are fed.

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
Walls made of living stone.

Many the gifts, many the people,
Many the hearts yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
Signs of your kingdom come.

Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.

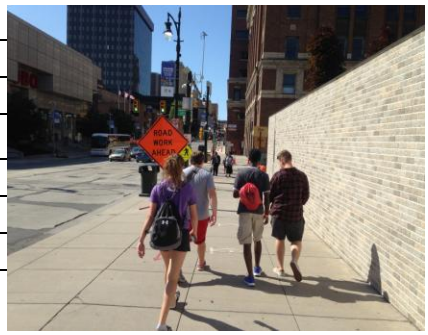
Saron's Council Members – 2015

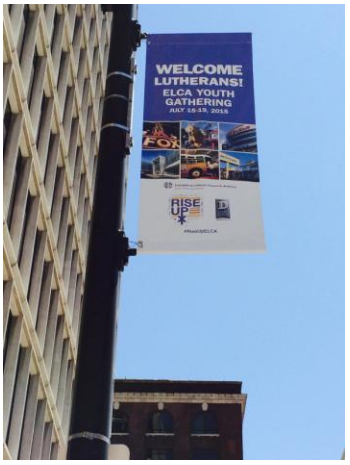
Mary Kynast (428-0148) – President
Jan Stevens (429-2044) – Vice President
Dave Bradley (427-70834) – Treasurer
Mary Alice Brunner (248-767-9026) – Secretary
Mary Alice Brunner (248-767-9026) – Worship*
Jack Houser (556-0377) - Learning*
Eric Standen (556-9629) – Facilities*
Ken Ark (269-369-4766) – Facilities*
Scott Gaspari (847-373-8825) – Youth*
Austin Kamala – (269-930-5989) – Youth*
Joyce Marquardt (408-8650) – Support*
Dave Bradley (427-70834) - Support
Frieda Williams (556-7269) – Hospitality*
Jan Stevens (429-2044) – Outreach*
Joan Oleson (983-1273 office;
983-2475 home) – Pastor
**liaison*

Youth

WE'RE BACK FROM DETROIT!

Saron's youth have returned home from Detroit where they attended the ELCA Youth Gathering . Thank you to all who have contributed to our trip through one of our fundraisers! To see videos from the Gathering, link on to http://elca.org/YouthGathering





Council News

Attendance Record	
06/28/2015	*79*
07/05/2015	*75*
07/12/2015	*67*
07/19/2015	*74*

Facilities

GOLDEN HAMMERS NEED HELP!

Golden Hammers is a group of volunteers at Saron that meets every Wednesday from 9:30 up to noon. They are women and men that gather to do various jobs in and outside of the church that help keep Saron looking good and also saving the church a considerable amount of money in cleaning and maintenance expenses. The work is not hard - mainly folding bulletins, preparing the monthly newsletter for mailing, preparing the sanctuary for Sunday morning, minor maintenance and cleaning/vacuuming of the church. If you would like to have more information on volunteering please talk to Dennis or Colleen Lundgren, Bill Oleson or Pastor Joan.

LAWN MOWERS NEEDED

Lawn mowers needed for the summer. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex, the church furnishes the mower and the gas. Please sign up to help the church save money on the lawn mowing and keep our grounds looking good. If you have any questions please see or notify Bill Oleson.
"Thanks!" from the **Golden Hammers**

SYNOD NEWS

If you would like to learn more about our synod, the North/West Lower Michigan Synod, or read synod news, check out the synod website at www.mittensynod.org.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Check out www.elca.org for news of our churchwide organization. You can also find stories about life in the ELCA on http://www.elca.org/Living-Lutheran. There are stories, blogs, photos, and a feature called "Ask a Pastor.

Vision Statements:

Facilities

Create a physical environment that will support our ministry

Hospitality – Inclusivity and Welcoming

Offer for all, Christ's radical hospitality.

Worship

Provide enhanced relevant worship experiences.

Outreach

Serve our community with 100% participation of those who worship at Saron.

Youth

Strive to encourage each of our youth to grow into their unique potential for a Christ centered life.

Learning

Center our lives in Christ through life-long learning

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR AUGUST 2015

Aug. 2 9:30 a.m.
Assisting Minister: Drew Huff
Reader/Com.Assist: Darlene Kiessel
Acolyte: Austin Kamala
Ushers: Dave and Sue Bailey
Nursery: Krista Blaylock and Ruth Stelling
Building Closing: Ken Ark

Aug. 9 9:30 a.m.
Assisting Minister: Colleen Lundgren
Reader: Debra Adams-Hurst
Intinction: Pat Breyen
Acolytes: Jenna Henderson
Ushers: Fritz Knauf and Steve Bell
Nursery: Krista Blaylock and Marlene Schalon
Building Closing: Colleen and Dennis Lundgren

Aug. 16 9:30 a.m.
Assisting Minister: Dennis Lundgren
Reader/Com. Assist: Frieda Williams
Ushers: David and Patty Young
Acolyte: Danielle Hohman
Nursery: Krista Blaylock and Mary Kynast
Building Closing: Bob and Mary Kynast

Aug. 23 9:30 a.m.
Assisting Minister: Connor Ashley
Reader/Intinction: Wendy King
Ushers: Walt and Sally Schmuhl
Acolyte: Grant Gacek
Nursery: Krista Blaylock and Marilyn Lucy
Building Closing: Steve Bell

Aug. 30 9:30 a.m.
Assisting Minister: Drew Huff
Reader/Intinction: Sue Rood
Ushers: Krin Jurgensen and Pat Breyen
Acolyte: Troy Burrow
Nursery: Krista Blaylock and Judi Huff
Building Closing: Dan Gustafson

Thank you for your willingness to serve. If a conflict arises for your scheduled time, please find a replacement or change with another volunteer. Calling the church office (983-1273) to alert us to changes will help us keep the bulletin as accurate as possible and know that everyone is in place on a Sunday morning.

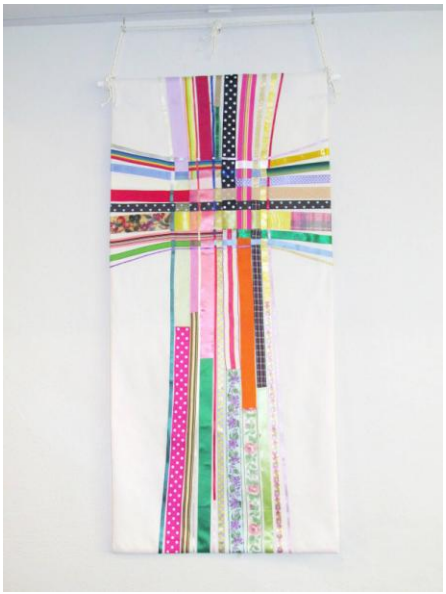
SARON LUTHERAN CHURCH
510 MAIN STREET
ST. JOSEPH, MI 49085

Website: www.saronlutheran.org
Email:info@saronlutheran.org

A Congregation of:
The North/West Lower Michigan Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

August 2015

We're on Facebook! Like us at
www.facebook.com/saronlutheranchurchst.joseph



Save the date!
Saron celebrates its 140th anniversary

Sunday, November 15

11:00 AM

Bishop Craig Satterlee, preaching

AUGUST 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 *Tenth Sunday after Pentecost*	3 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group 6:30pm-8:30pm Vacation Bible School Starts	4 8:30 a.m. Beach Bible Study at Lions 6:30pm-8:30pm Vacation Bible School	5 9:30am Golden Hammers 6:30pm-8:30pm Vacation Bible School	6 6:30pm-8:30pm Vacation Bible School Ends	7 Brittany Ondraka/ Eric Hansen wedding rehearsal	1 9:00am Men's Devotion/Breakfast 8 Brittany Ondraka/ Eric Hansen wedding
9 *Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost* 9:30 a.m. Worship Holy Communion	10 9:00 a.m. Newsletter Articles Due 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group	11 8:30 a.m. Beach Bible Study at Lions Park	12 9:30am Golden Hammers 6:00 p.m. Picnic at Lions Park with 7:00 p.m. Worship	13	14	15
16 *Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost* 9:30 a.m. Worship Holy Communion	17 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group 7:00 p.m Saron Council Meeting	18 8:30 a.m. Beach Bible Study at Lions Park 3:30 p.m. Vasa Meeting at Saron	19 9:30am Golden Hammers	20	21 Jessica Schmidt/ Phil Zubik wedding rehearsal	22 Jessica Schmidt/ Phil Zubik wedding
23 *Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost* 9:30 a.m. Worship Holy Communion	24 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group	25 8:30 a.m. Beach Bible Study at Lions Park	26 9:30am Golden Hammers	27	28	29t
30 *Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost* 9:30 a.m. Worship Holy Communion	31 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group				JULY S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	SEPTEMBER S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30